

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 21st April

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship which is being led by Mr Mark Priestley. The stewards today are Joyce Wild and John Cornish. Thank you to Joyce for the lovely flowers. Please join us in the hall for refreshments after today's service.

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 28 th April	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Brian Skelley
Sunday 28 th April	4.00 pm	Methodist Women in Britain Easter Offering Service at Highcliffe. Tea at 4.00 pm followed by the service at 5.00 pm
Sunday 5 th May	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Colin Besant
Thursday 9 th May	6.00 pm	Ascension Day service to be held at Holtwood
Sunday 12 th May	10.45 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Reverend Peter McNeill
Friday 17 th May	10.00 am	'Fun with Mark' – come and meet Mark Kimber in the Okeford Room
Sunday 19 th May	10.45 am	Church Anniversary led by Reverend David Vincent, followed by lunch in the hall
Sunday 26 th May	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber followed by a General Church Meeting in the hall

Colehill Methodist: Every Monday, 11.00 am to 12.00 noon(ish), Bible Study, coffee, prayers and plenty of chat. All welcome.

Bible in a year: 21st – 27th April: 2 Samuel 12 – 1 Kings 2 and Luk3 16 - 19

Meet Reverend Dr Mark Kimber: Most Fridays Mark will be available in the Okeford Room from 10.00 am to 11.00 am for anyone who wishes to have a chat with him. However, on the third Friday of each month – the next one being the 17th May – there will be a session entitled '**Fun with Mark**' to which you are cordially invited.

Easter Offering: The Circuit Methodist Women in Britain Forum invites you to the dedication of the Easter Offering Service at Highcliffe Methodist Church on Sunday 28th April for tea at 4.00 pm with a Service at 5.00 pm. The service this year is entitled 'Let Justice Roll', words from the prophet Amos. The service shares, through stories, how God calls upon people to work for justice and how our actions feed into communities and lives. These services are always interesting and give us insight into the work of Mission Partners throughout the world.

Glenda Sidding

Our Local Arrangement Service on 14th April: When it was suggested that we hold our Local Arrangement Service in the afternoon followed by tea, we hoped it would be a good idea . . . and judging by the comments we've received, it was a huge success, with 25 people attending. The service was very ably led by Philippa (one of our new members in the congregation), with support from Rona, Margaret and Nicola. Angela led some very lively hymn-singing from the piano. After the service we all enjoyed a traditional afternoon tea of sandwiches, cakes and desserts. Thank you to all those who either took part in the service or helped with the catering and tidying up. It was very much appreciated. Perhaps we can do this again some time ?

Church Anniversary, 19th May: We look forward to our 189th Church Anniversary on the 19th May which will be led by Reverend David Vincent from Wimborne Methodist. Following the service, we hope you will all stay for lunch in the hall. This year we thought we would have a slightly different lunch than in the past, so we will be offering either a chicken curry (mild to medium) or for those who are not so keen on curry, a chicken casserole. We will offer either rice or potatoes to accompany the curry or casserole. There will be a fruit flan and ice cream to follow the mains. Unfortunately, due to the cost of the ingredients, we will need to make a charge of £5 per person. We hope you will be able to come and join us for lunch, so to help us with our catering, please can you indicate on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex your preferences for lunch.

General Church Meeting, 26th May: Your General Church Meeting is for you! Everyone who is part of the Blandford Methodist Church community is welcome.

So, dear reader of the Link, **you are invited** to come along and enjoy the General Church Meeting after morning worship on Sunday 26th May. Please bring yourself, your ideas, and your own picnic lunch!

Church Council asked for suggestions of charitable organisations we might support as part of Harvest celebrations this year . . . so please bring two Charity names that we might consider. Maybe something around the corner and something around the world. We'll get those suggestions up on post-it notes on Sunday morning. Later, there might even be some sticky dot voting system to help the Stewards work out the way forward.

We will also briefly affirm and celebrate the appointment of the Church Stewards and other Church Council members for the coming Connexional year (we have the list sorted already!). Then we will get on to the main event - sharing, thinking, and exploring together about who we are as individual followers of Jesus, and who we are together as Blandford Methodist Church. I am hoping we will bring to life a sort of Agenda . . . for mission, impact, and growth.

Light and life, Mark

Woodlands Methodist: Church Anniversary on Sunday 5th May. Tea at 4.30 pm followed by service at 6.00 pm with Wellow wood Worship Group. Details on the poster in the hall.

“No one should feel alone.” Do you love to see families thrive? Do you have a bit of time to give to being a friend and a listening ear to a local family in a time of need to help them find a sense of belonging? Then please consider giving some time to help **Safe Families UK**.

We are a Christian Charity which works all over the UK to offer support to families in need. We are passionate that no one should feel alone, so working with local authorities, schools, foodbanks and other charitable organisations we look to offer a volunteer to a family to be a friend to a mum, dad or caregiver when they may feel most alone. We do not ask for a massive time commitment, maybe an hour, once a week or every two weeks.

If you would like to know more then please get in touch with Estelle Adams at estelleadams@safefamilies.uk or visit the website www.safefamilies.uk. Thank you!

John Cornish

Blandford Foodbank is **urgently** in need of (updated 14.4.24) -

Coffee (small jars)	Jam	Soup	Tinned carrots
Tinned chilli con carni	Tinned fruit	Tinned stew	
Tinned mince and onions	Tinned sweetcorn	UHT semi or whole milk	

The following items are also running low and need restocking -

Pasta sauce

For those able to support the Foodbank with items, a box has been placed in the Narthex as a collection point.

John Cornish

Prayer: Please can we remember to uphold in prayer those members of our congregation we know are ill or suffering in some way.

If you know of anyone who would like prayer and be mentioned by name in The Link, please let me know (having obtained their permission first to mention them by name).

Minister: Reverend Dr Mark Kimber

Enquiries via Lead Steward, John Cornish, on 07799 516 735

Pastoral Support: Joyce Wild: Tel: 01258 454091